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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/824,770	04/15/2004	Andrea Becattini	N1311	6712
23456	7590	12/15/2005	EXAMINER	
WADDEY & PATTERSON 1600 DIVISION STREET, SUITE 500 NASHVILLE, TN 37203			POPE, DARYL C	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2632	

DATE MAILED: 12/15/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No. **UX**

10/824,770

Applicant(s)

BECATTINI, ANDREA

Examiner

DARYL C. POPE

Art Unit

2632

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-33 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 18-20 and 28-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4-17, 27 and 31 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 7/16/2004.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_.

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Claim Objections***

1. Claims 4-17,21-27, and 31-33 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being in improper form because a multiple dependent claim cannot depend from any other multiple dependent claim. See MPEP § 608.01(n). Accordingly, the claims 4-17,21-27, and 31-33 have not been further treated on the merits.

### **ART REJECTION:**

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-3,18-20, and 28-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ranganath et al(5,471,119).

-- In considering claim 1, the claimed subject matter that is met by Ranganath et al(Ranganath) includes:

- 1) the at least one lighting device is met by the liamps(111);
- 2) the control unit is met by the input filter(101) in conjunction with the voltage regulator(107);
- 3) the devices for generating a light emission regulation signal is met by the frequency control(108) and LC circuit(109);

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4) the controller with a means of transmitting data toward the control unit is met by the micro-controller(105) which sends data elements for regulating the emission of the corresponding lighting device(see: column 6 lines 6-39).

Although Ranganath does not specifically teach the power supply line being connected to the controller, it would have been obvious that the controller would have been connected to the power line via signals received from the demodulator(103).

-- With regards to claim 2, the examiner takes Official Notice that in the lighting control art, use of modems, and in particular a PLM, is well known, and therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to substitute a modem(PLM) in place of the input filter, since this would have reduced circuitry, and as well provided a more efficient means of communicating signals via the power line.

-- With regards to claim 3, the lighting device with power supply circuit, light intensity regulator, power supply terminals, and regulation terminals connected to the control unit is met by the lamps(111) having power supplied via power line and power supply terminals, via regulator(107), frequency control(108), and tuned LC circuit(109) as seen in figure 1.

-- Claims 18-20, and 28-30 recite subject matter that is met as discussed in claims 1-3 above.

***Conclusion***

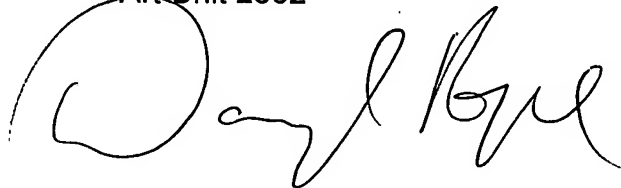
4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DARYL C. POPE whose telephone number is 571-272-2959. The examiner can normally be reached on M-TH 9:00-7:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, DANIEL J. WU can be reached on 571-272-2964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Daryl C. Pope  
Dec. 6, 2005

DARYL C POPE  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2632

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Daryl C. Pope', is written over the printed name and title.